

2018 Annual Meeting Proposed Resolution Amendments (22 September 2018)

Below are proposed amendments to resolutions which have been submitted for this year's Policy Session. Please remember that these have no official status until someone actually moves the amendment.

For each amendment marked "MOTION", an official delegate on the floor will need to make a motion to consider the amendment. A seconder to the motion will also be needed. Once moved, there will be a debate on the amendment and then a vote on whether to approve the amendment. If there is not two-thirds support for the change, debate reverts back to the original resolution text.

Proposed amendments to preambles will not be included in this document as there will be no discussion of preambles during the policy session. Canadian Chamber staff will make changes to preambles after the AGM has concluded to ensure that they match up to the recommendations. As proposed amendments are received in the Policy office, they will be added to this document. An updated "Proposed Resolution Amendments" will be periodically updated on the website and event app.

At the AGM session, you may also bring the amendment text to Policy Team members in the AGM Policy Office.

Proposed Amendments (as of September 22, 2018)

Resolutions to pull from omnibus:

Ontario Caucus Advisory Council - 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 19

Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce - 3, 8, 10, 14, 19 and 20

01. Clarifying the impact Assessment Act

Motion 1: Add the words "and energy" between "mining" and "projects" to Recommendation 2, to read: Ensure that mining and energy projects currently in the assessment process ..."

Proposed by Lloydminster Chamber of Commerce

03. Support SMEs to Become Exporters

Motion 1: Replace “Work with chambers of commerce and stakeholders” with “Work with business organizations, such as chambers of commerce and other stakeholders,...” in Recommendation 1.

Motion 2: Replace “Work with chambers of commerce and stakeholders” with “Work with business organizations, such as chambers of commerce and other stakeholders,...” in Recommendation 2.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

05. Protecting the National Economy by Managing the Lower Fraser River (2018)

Motion 1: Amend Recommendation 1.a) to read: “Broad stakeholder consultation, including Alberta and Saskatchewan regarding commodities shipment”

Proposed by Lloydminster Chamber of Commerce

Motion 2: Remove Recommendation 2.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

06. Strengthen Canada's Workforce Through Tax Indexing

Motion 1: Insert the word “Income” before “Tax” in Recommendation 1.

Motion 2: Delete the word “applying” from Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

08. Let the Provinces Decide on Transitioning to a Low-Carbon Economy

Motion 1: Replace Recommendation #1 with the following: "Ensure that the federal government is more responsive and inclusive of the different approaches taken by provinces to transition to a low carbon economy."

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

Motion 2: Remove Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

10. Attracting and Retaining International Students Through Canadian Work Experience

Motion 1: Reformat all Recommendations for easier reading, as follows:

1. Allow international students attending either a public institution, or private institution in any province or territory, that is registered on the Designated Institution list to:

- a) qualify for the Canada Summer Jobs program
- b) participate in voluntary co-op terms and internships without obtaining a separate work permit
- c) count all time spent in Canada as an international student towards citizenship eligibility (i.e increase from half time to full time)

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

13. Abandoned Vessels: Improving Oversight and Accountability

Motion 1: Remove the specificity to the West Coast by replacing "West Coast" with "West, East, and Northern Coasts" in Recommendation 1.

Motion 2: Remove the specificity to the West Coast by replacing "west Coast" With "West, East, and Northern Coasts" in Recommendation 5.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

14. Maximizing Value for Taxpayer Dollars on Public Infrastructure Projects and Defending the Rights of Canadian Companies and Workers

Motion 1: Insert recommendation #2: Have an unbiased third party audit contracts over a certain threshold to ensure transparency and value for money on government projects, and publicly report the results.

Proposed by the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce

Motion 2: amend the wording after "Institute a policy" to "that it will not commit federal dollars toward public infrastructure projects unless such projects allowed for an "open tender" process" in Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

15. ONE DIG: Increase economic activity by mandating that conduit be automatically included in all transportation and utility infrastructure activities

Motion 1: Insert the words "partially or fully funded federal government" between "any" and "infrastructure projects."

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

17. Helping More Small Businesses Improve Their Energy Productivity and Efficiency

Motion 1: Amend the Recommendation so that it reads: "Help small businesses overcome the barriers of increasing energy efficiency by ensuring more federal sustainability programs and incentives are dedicated to small businesses, and encourage small business uptake by addressing the issues of scale, complexity and up-front funding."

Proposed by Burnaby Board of Trade

19. Support Biotech in Agriculture

Motion 1: Replace Recommendation #3 with "Support R&D funding for agriculture to maintain Canada's leadership in innovation, the competitiveness of our agri-food industry, and our ability to feed the world."

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

Motion 2: add the words "and social-science based" communication after the words "Encourage increased science" in Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

20. Growth Engine Digital Media Industry

Motion 1: Add the words "by Canadian based companies" to the end of recommendation #3 after " foreign productions;"

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

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21. The importance to the Economy of Expanded Oil Pipeline Infrastructure

Motion 1: Add the following Recommendation between existing Recommendations 4 & 5:

"Ensure that the National Energy Board clearly understands the scope of work (assessment of mainland and marine impact) and carries out a thorough and transparent review of the project; and"

Proposed by Lloydminster Chamber of Commerce

26. Ensuring Front-of-Package Labelling Regulations for Food Products Do Not Affect Canadian Business Competitiveness

Motion 1: replace recommendation #1 with the following recommendations:

1. Conduct an analysis of existing mandatory front of package labelling regimes to determine whether there is sufficient evidence of efficacy and improved health outcomes to adopt such an approach;
2. Develop a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis that is grounded in evidence and provides comparable analysis of both costs and benefits associated with the front of package labelling;
3. Consider alternative labelling models based on a partnership with the food industry, providing assistance for the practicalities and expenses involved in re-labelling products

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

27. Open Canada Job Grant Eligibility to Small Business Owners

Motion 1: In Recommendation 1, add the words “and family members employed by the business” between “owners” and “access”, to read: Allow small business owners and family members employed by the business access to Canada Job Grant Subsidies for their own training needs”.

Proposed by Stony Plain & District Chamber of Commerce

28. Increasing Immigrant Workforce Participation through Employment-focused Language Training

Motion 1: Remove the words “Introduce and” from Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Brampton Board of Trade

Motion 1: Remove the words “Introduce and” from Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

30. Creating Private, Public (Municipal, Federal & Provincial/Territorial) and Indigenous Partnerships to Address the Skills Gap

Motion 1: Remove bullets 3-5 in Recommendation 1.

Motion 2: Remove the words “through the Gas Tax” from Recommendation 3 to read: “Develop a financial support mechanism that will allow for...”

Motion 3: Delete Recommendation 4 in its entirety.

Proposed by Stony Plain & District Chamber of Commerce

Motion 4: Add “in collaboration” before the words “with provincial/territorial and municipal governments” in Recommendation 2.

Motion 5: Change the word “remote” to “reserve” in Recommendation 2.

Motion 6: Remove reference to “gas tax” from Recommendation 3.

Motion 7: Delete Recommendation 4.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

32. Lifelong Learning

Motion 1: Delete the words “such as the CPMT in Quebec” from Recommendation 1.

Proposed by Stony Plain & District Chamber of Commerce

36. Advance Canada's Bioeconomy

Motion 1: Add “provinces and territories” to Recommendation 1.

Motion 2: Replace Recommendation 2 with the following: “Continue to fund successful business accelerators and venture capitalists that support bioindustrial companies and projects.”

Proposed by Sarnia Lambton Chamber of Commerce

Motion 3: Add “provinces and territories” after the words “governmental agencies” in Recommendation 1.

Motion 4: Remove Recommendation 2.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

Motion 5: Replace the word “fund” with the word “incentivize” in Recommendation 3.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

38. Unsticking Our International Border Crossings – An Economic and Environmental Turning Point

Motion 1: Delete Recommendation 3.

Proposed by Stony Plains & District Chamber of Commerce

Motion 2: Replace the phrase “30-60 minutes” with “at appropriate distances” so that Recommendation 4 reads: “Strategically designing advanced pre-clearance facilities at appropriate distances away from border...”

Proposed by Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce

Motion 3: Delete Recommendation 3.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

40. Considering the Layered Costs of Government Policies

Motion 1: Delete Recommendations 2, 3 & 4.

Motion 2: Clarify “layered cost assessment” phrasing in Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

Motion 3: Amend Recommendation 2 to read as follows: “Stop any further employer-paid increases to Federal employment premiums such as CPP and EI.; look for other ways to decrease labour costs so that minimum-wage businesses

can remain competitive; and set a federal ceiling on minimum wage costs so that jurisdictions across Canada can be equitable and competitive;"

Motion 4: Amend Recommendation 3 to read as follows: "In the face of U.S. tax reform, establish a royal commission to undertake a comprehensive review of taxing statutes guided by the principles of simplification and modernization, as well as having the goal of reducing compliance costs to make Canada a competitive tax regime once again."

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

41. Carefully Analyze the Impacts of Proposed Amendments to the Patented Medicines Regulations

Motion 1: Add the words "and make the results public" after "rigorous cost-benefit analysis" in Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

42: Addressing Barriers to Interprovincial Trade

Motion 1: Delete the 3rd bullet from Recommendation 2.

Proposed by Stony Plains & District Chamber of Commerce

Motion 2: Replace the words "in wine, beer, and spirits" with the words "that contribute the most to GDP" in bullet 3 of Recommendation 2.

Motion 3: Insert recommendation #3: Accelerate the pace of CFTA negotiations.

Proposed by the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce

43: Funding Transparency for Special Interest Groups

Motion 1: Add "registered charities, and interveners for special projects..." after "public consultations" in Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

45: Helping SMES Prepare for International Success

Motion 1: amend Recommendation 1 to simply read as follows: "Provide an integrated digital platform that builds on the tools from Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, the Business Development Bank of Canada, TFO Canada and Export Development Canada that also expands on search functionality to include search customization including not only country, but region/state/province, vertical and sector".

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

47: Making Canada Truly Accessible and Inclusive

Motion 1: Add the word "voluntary" between the words "a" and "complement" in Recommendation 1 to read: "...Certification program to operate as a voluntary complement..."

Proposed by Stony Plains & District Chamber of Commerce

Motion 2: Replace the word "adopt" with the phrase "Examine adopting" in Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

Motion 3: Add in a 4th recommendation to state:

4. Notwithstanding the recommendations above, give reasonable consideration to preservation of our historic resources and potential costs and challenges associated with bringing older buildings to compliance, implementing a grandfathering clause to buildings over a certain age (i.e. 100 years +).

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

48. Reforming the Canada Health Act to Achieve System Efficiencies

Motion 1: Add words to Recommendation 1 to read: "...more effective service models, while protecting the universality of health care for all and evaluating options for implementation through best practice models world-wide".

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

49. Addressing Entrepreneur & Employee Mental Health

Motion 1: to remove the phrase “in new forms of work arrangements;” from Recommendation 4.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

51. Grays Bay Road and Port Project

Motion 1: replace bullet 1 with the following: “Providing sufficient funding to ensure the project is ‘shovel ready,’ and;”

Proposed by the Territorial Policy Committee

Motion 2: Remove Recommendation #1.a

Motion 3: Incorporate the text of recommendation 1.b into the main recommendation.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

58. Reforming Canada's Tax System

Motion 1: amend the text of Recommendation 1 before the bullets to state: “Immediately establish a royal commission to undertake a comprehensive review of the taxing statutes guided by the principles of simplification and modernization, as well as having the goal of:”

Motion 2: And add a fifth recommendation to state “Establish a standing committee with active representation from the SME community to support the Royal commission by continuously monitoring changes and publicly reporting progress at least annually”

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

62. Preventing Disputed HST Collection Efforts

Motion 1: Amend Recommendation 1 with to read: Amend the Excise Tax Act to preclude collection efforts during the dispute process."

Proposed by Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade

Motion 2: Remove the words "with possible limited exceptions" from Recommendation 1, to read: "Amend the Excise Tax Act to preclude collection efforts during the dispute process"

Proposed by Stony Plains & District Chamber of Commerce

Motion 3: Remove the phrase "possible limited exceptions" from Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

66. Changes to CRA Interpretation of the Tax Code to Allow for Golf Fees for Business Expense

Motion 1: Replace "golf fees" in title with "Sports Entertainment Expenses"

Motion 2: Replace "golf fees" in Recommendation 1 with "Sports Entertainment Expenses"

Motion 3: Replace "golf fees" in Recommendation 2 with "Sports Entertainment Expenses"

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

Motion 4: Replace the phrase "golf fees as a business expense" with "expenses of recreation facilities used for business purposes as a regular business entertainment expense while specifically excluding expenses related to club dues and memberships."

Motion 5: Remove recommendation 2.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce